



JOINT PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 20, 2018

Cleanup project on State Trust Land to begin Wednesday

Sierra Vista, AZ. 03/20/18. Crews will begin work on an Arizona State Land Department project to clean up a 130-acre parcel of State Trust land in Sierra Vista on Wednesday, March 21.

The work, expected to be completed in about a week, is being conducted by Slate Creek Contracting LLC and paid for by the State Land Department. The work will be focused in the open area north and west of the Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway and Avenida Escuela intersection. Residents are advised that heavy equipment will be in the area as crews clean up trash, waste, and debris, while also clearing out brush, grass, and small trees.

The project will abate potential public health and safety hazards, while improving visibility and discouraging activities like illegal dumping and transient encampments in the future. The City also recently completed a similar cleanup effort on 26 acres of City land adjacent to the northeast corner of the State Trust land. Signs warning against unauthorized access will be posted once the cleanup is completed.

A fuels reduction project conducted in partnership with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management in late 2016 cleared out overgrowth in several other parcels of State Land in Sierra Vista. These projects help reduce the risk of a brushfire gaining intensity and spreading in open spaces within the City.

"The cleanup of this parcel reflects the mission of the State Land Department to responsibly manage the assets of a multi-generational perpetual Trust," said State Land Commissioner Lisa Atkins. "As fiduciary of more than 9.2 million acres of land throughout the State on behalf of 13 beneficiaries, the Department is working to make sure all lands and resources in the portfolio are proactively managed to maintain and enhance its value for generations to come. Our strong partnership with Mayor Mueller and the citizens of Sierra Vista is valued and critical to our success on behalf of Trust Beneficiaries."

--MORE--

“We’ve really seen a transformation in these open areas around town and these projects will have a lasting impact on aesthetics and public safety in our community,” Sierra Vista City Manager Chuck Potucek said. “We greatly appreciate the state’s interest and investment in improving the condition of the land under its management within Sierra Vista.”

Contact: Adam Curtis
Public Information Officer
City of Sierra Vista
1011 N. Coronado Dr.
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
(520) 458-3315
pio@SierraVistaAZ.gov

Mark Scarp
Public Information Officer
Arizona State Land Department
1616 W. Adams St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 542-2626
pio@azland.gov

#